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SUMMER PHASES

THE SPREE

In the uplift of spring
Earth had high thoughts in trees;
Smiling her apple-blossoms,
Blushing her peach-petals,
Delicate as a sprite.

Now she sprawls,
Making loose gestures with spreading vines;
Guffawing vegetables and fruits—
Harlequin melons, Punchinello squashes—
Hiccoughing cucumbers, stuttering tomatoes.
She is mad-drunk with summer.

Soon she'll lie still,
Decently covered with the leaf-brown quilt.
She'll give loud, gusty yawns, then sleep,
Jeered at by rains, pitied by snow;
And wake to chastened, stiff sobriety.

TRANSIT

The purple shadow clings with desperate will
Tightly to the granite hill;
Tries to grow to it.
I try, beloved, dear,